



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 105<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 144

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1998

No. 10

## House of Representatives

The House met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. UPTON).

### DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 11, 1998.

I hereby designate the Honorable FRED UPTON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Reverend James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

With gratitude and humility, with praise and appreciation, we offer our words of thanksgiving, O God, and seek Your blessings upon us and what we do.

Most earnestly this day we pray for those in this assembly to whom great responsibility has been given and from whom the critical decisions must come. For wisdom in the right use of power, we pray; for insight into the serious judgments that must be made for the welfare of all people, we pray; for discernment and knowledge in the search for peace in our world, we offer our petitions and our hopes.

May Your abiding presence, O God, encourage us in all things, so that justice rolls down as water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIERREZ) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GUTIERREZ led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS TO CENSUS MONITORING BOARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of section 210(c)(1) of Public Law 105-119, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following individuals on the part of the House to the Census Monitoring Board:

Mr. J. Kenneth Blackwell of Ohio and Mr. David W. Murray of Virginia.

There was no objection.

### APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS TO COMMISSION ON MAINTAINING UNITED STATES NUCLEAR WEAPONS EXPERTISE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of section 3162(b) of Public Law 104-201, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the Commission on Maintaining United States Nuclear Weapons Expertise:

Mr. Robert B. Barker of California and Mr. Roland F. Herbst of California.

There was no objection.

### APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of section 955(b)(1)(B) of Public Law 105-83, the Chair announces the

Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the National Council on the Arts.

Mr. DOOLITTLE of California and Mr. BALLENGER of North Carolina.

There was no objection.

### APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of section 491 of the Higher Education Act, as amended by section 407 of Public Law 99-498, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member on the part of the House to the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance for a 3-year term.

Mr. Henry Gibbons of Missouri.

There was no objection.

### TRIBUTE TO DONNA WEINBRECHT

(Mrs. ROUKEMA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise enthusiastically on behalf of the United States Congress and the people of New Jersey to congratulate the Olympic legend, Donna Weinbrecht of West Milford, New Jersey. Donna has been the foundation of the U.S. freestyle team for 11 years, and over her career she has won an Olympic gold medal, seven U.S. titles and 5 World Cup championships. These championship performances are what has earned her the international reputation as the Queen of the Moguls.

But Donna Weinbrecht is more than the winningest skier in U.S. history. She is a mentor and road model for our young people and a credit to our Nation for the excellence in all she does. This young woman from New Jersey is an inspiration to both athletes and

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

H387

non-athletes alike. Her sterling character, hard work, unending dedication and thorough mastery of her sport has made her a role model for young people across the Nation.

But her impact on her sport goes beyond trophies and honors. She has also served as a sports goodwill ambassador, and has brought the energetic promotion of freestyle skiing, or the "bumps," as they are known, to Olympians all around the world.

Carolyn and Jim Weinbrecht, her parents, had to stay home this time because of illness, but her brother and sister, Jim and Joy are there, and they are a family that has always been there for each other.

My colleagues and I now join Donna's family, the residents of West Milford, the citizens of New Jersey, and, indeed, of our whole Nation, in saluting our Olympic champion. Donna has always been a gold medal champion in our hearts, and always will be. She has carried our flag proudly.

#### ALLOW PUERTO RICO SELF-DETERMINATION

(Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROMERO-BARCELÓ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 856, a bill allowing the people of Puerto Rico to exercise their right to self-determination.

After 99 years of being disenfranchised citizens, the 3.8 million U.S. Citizens of Puerto Rico have earned their right to define their relationship with the rest of the Nation. Puerto Ricans have valiantly and honorably served in the U.S. Armed Forces and have been involved in every major armed conflict, starting with World War I. Many Puerto Ricans have sacrificed their lives to preserve the goals of the United States. Currently there are 146,000 war veterans residing in Puerto Rico. The number of Puerto Rican men and women serving in the Armed Forces has exceeded the number of soldiers serving from many larger States.

The Korean War in particular highlights the noteworthy sacrifices of the people of Puerto Rico. In per capita terms, Puerto Rico ranks second in the Nation with respect to the number of men and women who died in that war. Moreover, the 65th Infantry Regiment, composed entirely of Puerto Ricans, was the most highly decorated regiment in the world, receiving the Presidential Unit Citation, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, two Republic of Korea Presidential Citations, and the Bravery Gold Medal of Greece.

Clearly, Puerto Rico has made critical contributions with the blood and sweat of its own to defend democracy and freedom throughout the world.

The Puerto Ricans have been diligent in serving the Nation when called. Should not the U.S. Congress be dili-

gent in granting their earned right to self-determination?

I urge Members to support H.R. 856.

#### PRESIDENT'S BUDGET AN AFFRONT TO AMERICAN TAXPAYERS

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, there are many reasons that I oppose the President's recently submitted budget request, but none more important than the fact that it raises taxes. It raises taxes a lot.

Mr. Speaker, you would think that the White House would have learned its lesson from the last time it raised taxes on the American people in 1993. You would think that the White House would have learned its lesson from the recent race for Governor in Virginia. You would think that the White House would have learned its lesson from the outrageous level of taxation in Europe and all the economic misery that has caused. You would think the White House would have learned its lesson from its own economic report, which shows that the current level of taxation in this country is at the highest peacetime level ever.

But I guess not. The budget contains billions and billions of dollars in tax increases.

Mr. Speaker, this budget is an affront to the American taxpayer.

#### VERIFYING CITIZENSHIP BEFORE VOTING IN CONGRESS

(Mr. GUTIERREZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, Republicans are proposing to disenfranchise, degrade and demonize millions of American citizens. Under their legislation, H.R. 1488, certain voters will be singled out, purged from the voting rolls, and forced to prove that they are truly citizens.

I believe Members of Congress should go through the same humiliating exercise. After all, using the Republicans' own logic, we must assume that any votes cast in this body could be tainted until we check the status of those who vote here.

Therefore, I am urging that any further congressional votes be suspended until we verify the citizenship of every single Member of the U.S. House. I ask that the Sergeant at Arms revoke the voting card of any Member of Congress who cannot immediately produce an Immigration Service or Social Security document proving that he or she is indeed a citizen of the United States.

If the Republicans want to protect the integrity of the voting process in precincts around the country, we should start with the voting process here in Congress. It does not seem to

bother the GOP when the rights of millions of American voters are at stake. Maybe they will think differently if their rights are at stake, at risk, and their character under attack.

#### ACCURACY IN CAMPUS CRIME REPORTING ACT

(Mr. DUNCAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, 2 days ago, USA Today, in its lead editorial, strongly endorsed the Accuracy in Campus Crime Reporting Act. This bill, H.R. 715, is one that I introduced, which now has 65 cosponsors, divided almost equally between Republicans and Democrats. As USA Today said, "As long as campus courts operate in secret, students committing crimes get a privacy right denied to the rest of adults."

That is what this bill is all about. It is about opening up the records of crimes being committed at campuses. A college or university that does not have a crime problem should have no objections to this bill. But parents and students should be allowed to know if certain colleges are lax about law enforcement.

Many colleges prefer to discipline student criminals in secret campus courts. They use a warped interpretation of Federal privacy laws to treat these crimes as private academic records that may not be released to the public.

No one has any business knowing about a student's grades or financial aid records, but it is wrong, however, when the definition of privacy is used to protect rapists and murderers.

USA Today summed it up best by concluding "It is a sad state of affairs when an act of Congress is necessary for the Education Department to protect students' safety."

I encourage my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 715, a bipartisan bill that will change the definition of privacy to exclude campus criminal activity.

#### USE AMERICAN TROOPS TO GUARD AMERICAN BORDER

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the Immigration and Naturalization Service in some of their offices have error rates as high as 99 percent in reviewing applications, according to a recent study. In addition, 13,000 immigrants bought citizenship with illegal payoffs and bribes.

Now, if that is not enough to compromise your disgust, check this out: The INS says keep the military off the borders, Congress.

Unbelievable. These same bungling, incompetent nincompoops who have allowed heroin and cocaine to be easier